

REMARKS

Claims 1-28 are pending in the present application.

Entry of the above amendments is earnestly solicited.
An early and favorable first action on the merits is earnestly requested.

Should there be any matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE."

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachments

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE:

The Abstract of the Disclosure has been amended as follows:

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A transfer sheet 7-separated from a support member is held and ~~the~~its recording position ~~of the transfer sheet 7 thus held~~ is detected, and the separated transfer sheet 7-is returned and superposed on the recording surface of a support member 23-which is then delivered in. Based on the result of the detection of the recording position, the returning position of the transfer sheet 7-is changed or image data to be recorded are changed, thereby carrying out a recording operation over the support member 23-by using an unrecorded section present between the recorded stripes of the transfer sheet. For example, the transfer sheet 7-is returned to almost the same position as that set before the separation and the recording position 5-is shifted at an arrangement pitch of a stripe corresponding to 1 to 1.5 pitches to carry out the recording operation. Thus, the recording operation is performed over the support member 23-by using an unrecorded section-3-.

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims have been amended as follows:

5. The recording method according to ~~any of claims~~claim 1 ~~to 4~~, wherein when the unrecorded section of the transfer sheet obtained after the recording operation is narrower than a region of the stripe shape to be recorded, the transfer sheet is discharged.

8. The recording apparatus according to claim ~~6-or-7~~, wherein the separating and holding means is provided corresponding to at least the number of colors of the transfer sheet to be used and holds the transfer sheet for each of the colors.

9. The recording apparatus according to ~~any-of-claims~~claim ~~6-to~~ 8, wherein the separating and holding means is a separating roller for holding the transfer sheet on a peripheral surface of a cylinder.

11. The recording apparatus according to claim ~~9-or-10~~, wherein a driving source for controlling a rotating angle of the separating roller is connected to the separating roller.

12. The recording apparatus according to ~~any-of-claims~~claim ~~9-to~~ 11, further comprising an axial direction moving position detecting section for detecting a position in an axial direction of the separating roller.

13. The recording apparatus according to ~~any-of-claims~~claim ~~9-to~~ 12, further comprising an axial direction movement driving section for controlling a movement of the separating roller in the axial direction of the separating roller.

20. The recording method according to ~~any-of-claims~~claim ~~15-to~~ 19, wherein when the unrecorded section of the transfer sheet obtained after the recording operation is narrower than a region of the stripe shape to be recorded, the transfer sheet is discharged.

23. The recording apparatus according to claim ~~21-or-22~~, wherein the separating and holding means is a separating roller for holding the transfer sheet on a peripheral surface of a cylinder.

25. The recording apparatus according to claim 21-~~or~~-22, wherein the separating roller connects a driving source for controlling a rotating angle.

26. The recording apparatus according to claim 21-~~or~~-22, wherein the separating roller includes an axial direction position detecting section for detecting a position in an axial direction of the separating roller.